



# SENATOR RUNNER'S WEEK IN REVIEW

## A WEEKLY REVIEW THAT WILL KEEP YOU INFORMED AND UP-TO-DATE



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### "National Victims' Rights Week"

This week, April 23-28, 2006, was National Victims' Rights Week. This year's theme is "Victims' Rights: Strength in Unity" which emphasizes the importance of joining together to support victims' families and to promote victims' rights and services.

Also this week, the U.S. Department of Justice executed Operation Falcon II -- a "27-state dragnet" which coincided with National Victims' Rights Week. Federal agents arrested 9,037 fugitives. More than 1,100 of the fugitives were wanted for violent sex crimes, the largest number ever captured in a single law enforcement operation according to the Department of Justice.

Among those caught was a sex offender who failed to register with Megan's Law when he moved to a motel in Victorville. Investigators found letters to children he had written and notes explaining why he enjoys molesting children. They also found methamphetamines and child pornography. The police are working to locate children who are listed in his diary-style notes.

A federal sweep once a year is important but what we need are tougher laws. We need laws to keep these child molesters in prison and monitor them with GPS if they are ever released from prison.

I also participated in National Victims' Rights Week. I was a speaker at the rally held at the State Capitol by Crime Victims United on Monday, April 24. Lora Owens, step-mother of one of Stanley "Tookie" Williams' victims spoke about the need to speed up the process for the death penalty. Then, Mark Lunsford, father of 9-year old Jessica, after which Jessica's Law is named, spoke about his daughter's horrible three-day

#### News of the Week

[Runner Opposed to the Great American Boycott](#)

[California Coffers Fill With Extra \\$1.5 Billion in Revenues](#)

[Runner Criticizes State Senate's Support of Boycott](#)

[Crime Rate Increases in 2005](#)

[Former Speaker Bob Hertzberg: A Smaller, Better LAUSD](#)

[Contra Costa Times Editorial: Don't Increase the Car Tax](#)

[Wesley J. Smith: Death by Ethics Committee](#)

[Press Release: Runner's Legislation to Speed Up Road Delivery Passes Two Committees](#)



ordeal that led to her death at the hands of a convicted sex offender who had failed to register with Megan's Law. Mr. Lunsford is fighting for tougher sex offender laws, like Jessica's Law, throughout the country.

Later in the day, Mr. Lunsford was honored on the floor of the State Senate for his efforts to improve child safety with a resolution from Senator Jeff Denham (R-Merced), Senator Elaine Alquist (D-San Jose), and myself. He was also honored on the floor of the State Assembly by Assemblymember Sharon Runner and Assemblymember Rudy Bermudez (D-Norwalk).

This was a sobering and inspiring week. When I spoke to different family members of crime victims, I could still see the pain they experienced. I also saw resolve in their eyes to fight for tougher laws so this pain is not felt by others.

I am committed to these families, to serve the people in the 17<sup>th</sup> District, and all Californians to make our communities safe and appropriately punish these monsters who prey on the innocent. I will continue to fight every attempt made to weaken Three Strikes and I will work to strengthen our public safety laws.

**If you would like to contact Senator Runner, please click  
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